Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act 2000

REVIEW OF STATUTORY DIRECTION(S) – PROPOSED CHANGE TO EXISTING DIRECTION(S)

SUMMARY FOR PUBLIC CONSULTATION Prepared by Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority

1. INFORMATION ABOUT THE PUBLIC CONSULTATION:

Access Authority: Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority
Relevant Authority: Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority
Local Access Forum: Yorkshire Dales Local Access Forum

Original direction reference: 2005010080

Land Parcel Name:	Details of restriction on current direction
Quarry Wood	Direction to exclude the public from Quarry Wood for a period of six years. The direction was given to allow the applicant to continue charging the public for entry to the land on foot on a permanent basis. 28 May 2010 to 27 May 2016.

The Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority has begun a review of the above long term direction in accordance with statutory guidance. A consultation has been held with statutory consultees and the general public that sought views on the existing direction.

Quarry Wood is a small strip of registered common to the north of Ingleton village. It is owned by Ingleton Scenery Company, on whose behalf the application was made. A managed trail runs through the site along the eastern side of the wood before dropping down towards the river, crossing out of the site by way of a bridge across the River Doe. This path forms part of the Ingleton Waterfalls Walk. There is no other entry point into the site. Immediately beyond the point where this path begins are signs which make it clear that the path is a managed trail, and asking for payment at the Falls Refreshment Centre. Other signs at this point relate to site safety. There are no public rights of way onto or adjacent to the site.

The Relevant Authority Guidance states that where an applicant provides evidence that permanent charging was in force during the 12 months ending 30 November 2000 for simple entry to an area of land on foot, it is likely to be necessary for the Relevant Authority, on application, to give a direction excluding

the CRoW rights from the affected area, so that the occupier can continue to charge for entry on the same basis.

The applicant provided documentation confirming that charging has been in place on the Waterfalls Walk since 1885. Charging is in place all year, with the walk closed Christmas Day only.

The Guidance states that the lowest level of restriction is to exclude the public from the area that, and at times when, they would have had to pay to enter for access on foot prior to CRoW enactment. A direction was therefore made excluding the public for a period of five years.

This direction was reviewed in 2010 and extended for a further six year period. It is, therefore, now being reviewed for the second time.

The initial consultation on the current direction was held in July and August 2015 and comments were received from the Yorkshire Dales Local Access Forum (YDLAF) and the Ramblers Association.

Summary of consultee comments:

The agents for the owner state the situation has not changed since the original application to restrict access under the Countryside & Rights of Way Act 2000 and they wish the restriction to remain in place.

The advice of the YDLAF was that the restriction to exclude people from Quarry Wood remains unchanged.

The Ramblers Association agree to the continuation of the current direction as no change to the managed trail and system of payment for entrance has occurred since the last review, this would be the lowest level of restriction necessary and in line with the Relevant Authority Guidance.

After due consideration, the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority now proposes to continue the direction to exclude the public from the open access land at Quarry Wood, Ingleton, for a further six years. There has been no evidence to suggest that there has been a change in the way the CRoW mapped access land is used or managed since the original direction was made.

As the Authority is minded to vary the direction (ie proposing to make another long term direction) it is undertaking a second round of consultation.

2. SUMMARY OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO EXISTING DIRECTIONS:

Details of restriction on current direction:	Proposed details for new direction	Reason for proposed direction
Direction to exclude the public from Quarry Wood for six years. The direction was given to allow the applicant to continue charging the public for entry to the land on foot on a permanent basis. 28 May 2010 to 27 May 2016.	Direction to exclude the public from Quarry Wood for six years. The direction will allow the applicant to continue charging the public for entry to the land on foot on a permanent basis. 28 May 2016 to 27 May 2022.	To allow the owner to continue charging the public for entry to the land on foot on a permanent basis.

The Authority must still review the direction no later than five years after its anniversary (or from the date of the last review).

3. SUBMITTING COMMENTS ON THE REVIEW:

If you wish to comment on the review of this direction then you must do so before 19 October 2015 directly to Cathy Bradley at cathy.bradley@yorkshiredales.org.uk. Comments received after this date cannot be taken into account.

A map accompanies this notice and can be seen on the <u>Consultation Pages</u> of the Government's Website¹.

Using and sharing your consultation responses

In line with Natural England's <u>Personal Information Charter</u>, any comments you make, and any information you send in support of them, will help us to determine the application and / or determine if the restriction is still necessary in relation to the review or reassessment of a current direction.

We may wish to pass such comments or information to others in connection with our duties and powers under the open access legislation. This may mean for example passing information, including your name and contact details, to the

¹ https://www.gov.uk/government/publications?publication filter option=consultations. To access the consultation enter "Open Access" into the free text box titled "Contains" and then filter by "Natural England" in the Department drop down.

Secretary of State or their appointees, the Planning Inspectorate or to the relevant access authority(s).

We do not plan to publish individual comments in full, but we may publish extracts from them when we report on our consultation(s).

There may also be circumstances in which we will be required to disclose your response to third parties, either as part of the statutory process for consideration of representations and objections about our decision, or in order to comply with our wider obligations under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004.

If you do not want your response - including your name, contact details and any other personal information - to be publicly available, please explain clearly why you regard the information you have provided as confidential. However, we cannot give an assurance that confidentiality can be maintained in all circumstances. An automatic confidentiality disclaimer generated by your IT system will not be regarded as binding on Natural England.